

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. list	Candidates for Quality Commission (2 pages)	nd	P2
002. list	Recommendations for Quality Commission (9 pages)	nd	P2
003. memo	Lynn A. Jennings to Chris Jennings and Peggy A. Clark Re: Blue Cross/Blue Shield Names (1 page)	1/31/97	P2

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Domestic Policy Council
Chris Jennings (Subject File)
OA/Box Number: 23744

FOLDER TITLE:

Quality Commission-Appointees' Background [3]

gf51

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

EXECUTIVE ORDER

AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 13017

Draft

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and in order to add 12 members to the Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry and to revise the deadlines for the Commission's submission to the President of interim and final reports, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. Section 1(a) of Executive Order 13017 is amended by deleting the number "20" in the second sentence and inserting the number "32" in lieu thereof.

Section 2. Section 3 of Executive Order 13017 is amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 3. *Reports.* The Commission shall make a preliminary report to the President by January 31, 1998. A final report shall be submitted to the President by March 30, 1998."

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

September 5, 1996

EXECUTIVE ORDER

- - - - -

ADVISORY COMMISSION ON CONSUMER PROTECTION
AND QUALITY IN THE HEALTH CARE INDUSTRY

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App.), it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. Establishment. (a) There is established the Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry (the "Commission"). The Commission shall be composed of not more than 20 members to be appointed by the President. The members will be consumers, institutional health care providers, health care professionals, other health care workers, health care insurers, health care purchasers, State and local government representatives, and experts in health care quality, financing, and administration.

(b) The Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Secretary of Labor shall serve as Co-Chairs of the Commission. The Co-Chairs shall report through the Vice President to the President.

Sec. 2. Functions. (a) The Commission shall advise the President on changes occurring in the health care system and recommend such measures as may be necessary to promote and assure health care quality and value, and protect consumers and workers in the health care system. In particular, the Commission shall:

(1) Review the available data in the area of consumer information and protections for those enrolled in health care plans and make such recommendations as may be necessary for improvements;

(2) Review existing and planned work that defines, measures, and promotes quality of health care, and help build further consensus on approaches to assure and promote quality of care in a changing delivery system; and

(3) Collect and evaluate data on changes in availability of treatment and services, and make such recommendations as may be necessary for improvements.

(b) For the purpose of carrying out its functions, the Commission may hold hearings, establish subcommittees, and convene and act at such times and places as the Commission may find advisable.

Sec. 3. Reports. The Commission shall make a preliminary report to the President by September 30, 1997. A final report shall be submitted to the President 18 months after the Commission's first meeting.

Sec. 4. Administration. (a) To the extent permitted by law, the heads of executive departments and agencies, and independent agencies (collectively "agencies") shall provide the Commission, upon request, with such information as it may require for the purposes of carrying out its functions.

(b) Members of the Commission may receive compensation for their work on the Commission not to exceed the daily rate specified for Level IV of the Executive Schedule (5 U.S.C. 5315). While engaged in the work of the Commission, members appointed from among private citizens of the United States may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by law for persons serving intermittently in the Government service (5 U.S.C. 5701-5707) to the extent funds are available for such purposes.

(c) To the extent permitted by law and subject to the availability of appropriations, the Department of Health and Human Services shall provide the Commission with administrative services, funds, facilities, staff, and other support services necessary for the performance of the Commission's functions. The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall perform the administrative functions of the President under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App.), with respect to the Commission.

Sec. 5. General Provision. The Commission shall terminate 30 days after submitting its final report, but not later than 2 years from the date of this order, unless extended by the President.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

THE WHITE HOUSE,
September 5, 1996.

#

AGENDA

ADVISORY COMMISSION ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND QUALITY IN THE HEALTH CARE INDUSTRY

FEBRUARY 7, 1997

- 1. Notification of Approved Candidates**
 - a. On Monday, Peg's office will work solely on calling the 31 people to fill out CIS forms.**
 - b. In the event that a person declines, we should choose priorities from the also considered list to take his/her place.**
 - c. Should calls to sponsors of non-approved candidates be postponed until we know if anyone does decline?**
- 2. Notification of sponsors for approved candidates and non-approved candidates**
 - a. Review list of non-approved candidates to determine priority calls.**
 - b. Who should make the calls?**
- 3. Amending Executive Order**
 - a. We will need to amend the executive order before the commission is announced.**

JAN. 24. 1997 12:39PM 20PM

ASSOCIATED GROUP 3N

James T. Parker
Vice President
External Relations and
Corporate Marketing

NO. 007536 P. 2 2/4
Anthem, Inc.
120 Monument Circle
Indianapolis, IN 46204-4903
Tel 317 488-6959
Fax 317 488-6306
E-mail: jtm_parker@aici.com

Quality Connection *File*

Anthem

January 23, 1996

Mr. Jeff Richetti
BlueCross BlueShield Association
1310 G Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

Mr. John Troy
Health Insurance Association of America
555 13th Street, NW
Suite 600E
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Gentlemen:

Thank you for your consideration of Ben Lytle as a nominee to the Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry. Separately, I am faxing each of you a copy of Mr. Lytle's resume.

In discussions with both of you, we discussed the need to raise any issues that may have a bearing on his nomination. I hope that the following narrative will give you a better understanding of Anthem's history, current status and future plans, as well as make you aware of any issues that may precipitate questions.

Ben Lytle is the President & CEO of Anthem, Inc., and Indianapolis-based insurance services company. Anthem, Inc. is known throughout the midwestern states of Indiana, Ohio and Kentucky as the provider of Blue Cross and Blue Shield health insurance products in those states. The company is the largest Blue Cross and Blue Shield company in the United States and one of the largest health care management companies in the country.

During 1996, Anthem announced plans to expand the number of Americans to whom it offers Blue Cross and Blue Shield coverage by merging with the Blue Cross and Blue Shield plans in New Jersey, Delaware and Connecticut. When these mergers are complete, Anthem will become one of the five largest health care management companies in the United States.

Anthem's objective is to combine the strength and heritage of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield tradition with a commitment to providing quality health care services to its customers. Its commitment and focus on the delivery of quality health care has been demonstrated through its pursuit of NCQA accreditation in every market in which it operates. The company has achieved full, three-year accreditation in Ohio, one-year accreditation in Indiana, and is applying for accreditation in Kentucky.

In addition, the company has been recognized nationally for its health care quality programs. Most recently, it was nationally recognized for its coronary services program. This program has fulfilled the promise of our quality mission by reduced the mortality rates for Anthem members in need of coronary services while reducing the total amount spent on these services.

Corporate Structure

As you know, the health care environment is changing daily. With these changes, many organizations are considering changes to the corporate structure. I hope that the following information will clearly describe Anthem's current structure. The parent organization, Anthem Insurance Companies Incorporated, d.b.a. Anthem, Inc., is, and always has been, an Indiana-domiciled mutual property casualty insurer. It is operated for the benefit of its policyholders and, if liquidated, its assets would be the property of its members.

In 1993, Anthem merged with the Kentucky Blue Cross and Blue Shield plan; a similar merger occurred with Community Mutual Blue Cross and Blue Shield, headquartered in Cincinnati, in 1995. Each of these merger partners were mutual insurance companies, operated for the benefit of their policyholders, at the time of their mergers with Anthem. Today, these entities operate as wholly-owned subsidiaries of Anthem, Inc., and are operated for the benefit of the members of Anthem, Inc.

Each of these entities (Anthem, Inc., the former Kentucky plan and the former Community Mutual plan) were tax paying entities at the state and federal level at the time of merger. Since its formation in 1944, Anthem, Inc. and its predecessor companies have not enjoyed the luxury of any state tax exemptions, and has been subject to federal taxation since 1996.

Recently, the Attorney Generals of Ohio and Kentucky have suggested that the former Kentucky and Ohio entities may be required to surrender assets that were acquired at a time in their corporate histories when they enjoyed certain tax advantages. Anthem believes that any obligations of these former entities have already been satisfied, and is continuing to discuss this issue with these Attorneys General.

It is also important to know the current corporate forms of each of Anthem's announced merger partners. Anthem's proposed merger with New Jersey Blue Cross was announced in May, 1996. Immediately prior to that announcement, New Jersey Blue Cross announced its intent to purchase Delaware Blue Cross and Blue Shield. New Jersey Blue

Cross and Blue Shield is currently a nonprofit health services corporation. As a precursor to its merger with Anthem, it has submitted an application with the state of New Jersey to convert to a mutual insurance company. The state of New Jersey is currently considering this request.

Anthem's proposed merger with Connecticut Blue Cross and Blue Shield was announced in October, 1996. Connecticut Blue Cross is a mutual insurance company, operated for the benefit of its policyholders. This proposal is now under review by the state of Connecticut.

Anthem, Inc. also owns a number of health and insurance-related subsidiary companies. These include Anthem Prescription Management, a pharmacy benefit management company; Anthem Casualty, a property casualty insurer; American Health Network, a primary care physician organization; and SpecialMed, a specialty physician organization.

In addition, Anthem is the majority shareholder in Acordia, an insurance brokerage company. Acordia is a publicly traded company (NASDAQ). Anthem created Acordia in 1989 to be the primary distributor of its health insurance and related products and services. Extremely customer focused, Acordia has grown to become, today, the 7th largest insurance broker in the world.

There are two principle advantages to Anthem's relationship to and ownership interest in Acordia. The first is the immediate and direct feedback from the customer that Acordia provides the insurance company. As a result, Anthem is able to gauge and respond to changing customer needs and preferences extremely quickly. Second, as Acordia has grown and expanded, its market value has increased significantly. The value of Anthem's shares of Acordia stock have improved the company's financial position and given it the financial ability to make investments that otherwise would have been financed through premium contributions or regular earnings.

Regulatory Issues

Anthem has enjoyed positive, productive relationships with its regulator(s) throughout its history. The company believes that a collaborative approach to problem solving is in the best long-term interest of the company and its industry. However, the company has, from time, been faced with difficult regulatory environments. Anthem faces such a situation today in the state of Kentucky.

As a result of a series of health care reforms enacted by the Kentucky legislature during the past three years, the degree of competition within the Kentucky market has significantly eroded. Today, Anthem is the only private insurer offering health insurance products in the individual market in Kentucky. In addition, the company has found it difficult to obtain premiums for its products that will allow it to eliminate its current losses.

At a public rate hearing last fall, the Kentucky Attorney General, Ben Chandler, acting as a representative of consumers, asked Anthem to publicly divulge competitively sensitive information. Anthem released all information requested by the Attorney General for private review, but has contested its public release. This issue has been moved to the Kentucky Supreme Court for final adjudication.

You should also know that the former Kentucky Blue Cross and Community Mutual Blue Cross plans have been the subject of litigation challenging the way these companies once determined member copayment amounts. The case involving the former Kentucky plan has been settled, and a settlement involving the former Community Mutual plan is before the court. It is important to note that Anthem and its predecessor companies have always adjudicated member copayments and deductibles in accordance with state regulations governing their adjudication. Settlements in these cases were deemed to be preferable to a protracted course of litigation.

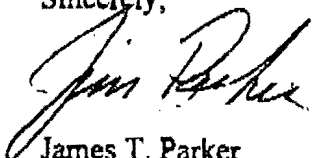
Media Issues

Like all managed care organizations, Anthem has been the subject of occasional press attention related to the management of member care. One such case received press attention in Cincinnati three years ago and involved a Cincinnati firefighter who had cancer. The member requested an experimental bone marrow transplant. The procedure was denied by a team of medical experts who concluded that the procedure itself would endanger the life of the patient. Sadly, the position of the expert team was confirmed when the firefighter received the transplant through alternative financing and passed away shortly thereafter.

Anthem also came under scrutiny as a result of an incident involving a woman who received an early discharge from a hospital following a normal delivery. In the case in question, the woman's physician and hospital made a determination that the woman should be discharged from the hospital; Anthem did not impose any requirement that would have forced the woman to leave on a particular schedule. Subsequently, Anthem has supported the passage of "48 hour delivery" proposals before the Congress and state legislatures.

I hope that this information is helpful in defusing any concerns that may be raised regarding Ben Lytle's nomination; if I can answer any other questions or be of additional help, please let me know.

Sincerely,



James T. Parker
Vice President,
External Relations &
Corporate Marketing

L. Ben Lytle

L. Ben Lytle is president and CEO of Anthem, Inc. Since taking the helm as CEO in 1989, Lytle has steered Anthem from a one-state company with a billion in revenue to a position as one of the five largest health care management companies in the United States. Before joining Anthem's predecessor company in 1976, he held positions with LTV Aerospace, Associates Corp. of North America, and American Fletcher National Bank.

Mr. Lytle serves on numerous corporate boards of directors, including IPALCO Enterprises, a publicly-traded energy company; CID Equiry Partners, a venture capital firm; Banc One Indianapolis, NA; and Duke REIT, a publicly-traded real estate investment firm. He also chairs the Indianapolis Corporate Community Council and serves on the Boards of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra and Museum of Art.

Anthem, Inc. is a *Fortune 500* health care management company based in Indianapolis. The company sells health and life insurance and managed care products in 50 states and is the Blue Cross and Blue Shield licensee for Indiana, Ohio, and Kentucky. Anthem recently announced plans to merge the Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies of New Jersey, Connecticut, and Delaware into Anthem.

Anthem's products include: managed care, indemnity, and integrated health care networks; workers' compensation; life insurance, and government program administration. Anthem's consolidated revenues have grown from \$1 billion in 1989, to a projected \$12.5 billion including the New Jersey, Connecticut, and Delaware Blue Cross and Blue Shield mergers.

Mr. Lytle's innovative strategies and commitment to change has been recognized by management experts across the country and was cited by Tom Peters in his book "Liberation Management," and in several periodicals. He is a frequent guest lecturer on health care and strategic planning, and has provided testimony to Congress and State Legislatures on health care reform.

Mr. Lytle is a graduate of East Texas State University and the Indiana University School of Law. He is an avid reader and on weekends is often found jogging, water skiing, or playing with his two-year old grandson, Zachary. He and his wife, Karen, travel extensively with their two sons and daughter.

SAM FARR
17TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
SUBCOMMITTEES:
DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS, NUTRITION,
AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURE
RISK MANAGEMENT AND SPECIALTY CROPS

COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES
SUBCOMMITTEES:
FISHERIES, WILDLIFE, AND OCEANS
WATER AND POWER RESOURCES

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0517

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FAX COVER SHEET
Office of U.S. Rep Sam Farr
Washington, DC

(If you experience problems with this transmission, please call 202-225-2861.)

DATE:

8/4

TOTAL PAGES:

12

TO:

Linda Cooper

FROM:

Rockelle Hornath

MESSAGE:

Re: Sam Downing

SAM FARR
17TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
SUBCOMMITTEES:
DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS, NUTRITION,
AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURE
RISK MANAGEMENT AND SPECIALTY CROPS

COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES
SUBCOMMITTEES:
FISHERIES, WILDLIFE, AND OCEANS
WATER AND POWER RESOURCES

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0517

April 7, 1997

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(408) 429-1976

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to ask that you appoint Sam Downing as an alternate to your recently-appointed Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry.

I am most disappointed that Mr. Downing was left off the list you announced on March 26. Clearly, he is extremely knowledgeable of health care delivery in the United States, as his background strongly indicates (vitae enclosed). The many letters of recommendation submitted to your office are testament to the quality and depth of his involvement in health care matters. He is so highly respected in the community that *from his deathbed* a leading local attorney dictated a letter of support for Sam Downing's appointment to the commission; that, despite health complications this attorney felt strongly enough about Downing's appointment to put his other -- obviously more critical -- concerns aside. I am enclosing this letter for your files.

As administrator of a public, non-profit hospital in one of California's fastest growing regions, Sam knows well health care delivery systems for under-served populations. He is expert in the field, having spent much of his time participating in discussions and designs of every conceivable health care delivery system, from outreach to high-risk farm workers to hospice care for senior citizens. He has been an impressive advocate for the health care industry to move into areas of prevention, including outreach to AIDS and Alzheimer patients. His service has also extended into areas of in-house support services such as youth violence prevention. In fact, last summer you yourself came to Salinas, California, to praise the city for its work in turning the curve on gang violence -- work that you termed a "model" for the rest of the nation. It was Sam Downing who was instrumental in attacking gang violence as a health-care issue.

Mr. President, I generally would not question your judgement or authority to choose whom you please for an advisory board of this nature. However, I feel strongly enough about

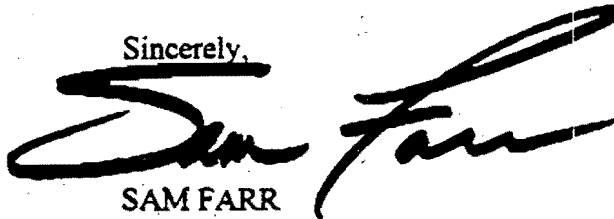
The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton

April 7, 1997

Page 2

this to ask you to reconsider your appointments and add Sam Downing to the board, at least to serve as an alternate to full members of the commission. I guarantee that he will bring value and experience to the table and will serve you well.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sam Farr".

SAM FARR
Member of Congress

SF/rd

Enclosures

SAM FARR
17th DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

SUBCOMMITTEES:

DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS, NUTRITION,
AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURE

RISK MANAGEMENT AND SPECIALTY CROPS

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Congress of the United States
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January, 28, 1997

The Honorable Donna E. Shalala
Secretary
Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Shalala:

I am writing to recommend the appointment of Sam Downing, CEO of Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital, for the President's National Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry. I support his appointment for several reasons.

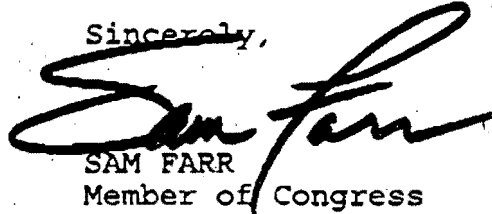
As administrator of a public, non-profit hospital in one of California's fastest growing regions, Sam knows well health care delivery systems for under-served populations. He is expert in the field, having spent much of his time participating in discussions and designs of every conceivable health care delivery system, from outreach to high-risk farm workers to hospice care for senior citizens. He has been an impressive advocate for the health care industry to move into areas of prevention, including outreach to AIDS and Alzheimer patients. His service has also extended into areas of in-house support services such as youth violence prevention. In fact, Salinas became a model city for effectively turning the curve on gang violence -- evidenced by President Clinton's visit there this past Summer. Sam Downing has been instrumental in pointing out the cost of violence as a health-care issue.

Sam works well with people in government. He stays well-connected to top legislators at local, state, and federal levels, including those of us in Congress as well agency and department officials. While Leon Panetta served as President Clinton's Chief of Staff, Sam maintained an active and close relationship with him. Sam is also well-connected to all hospital administrators in the California Central Coast region, including military, private, public, and religious hospitals. He has an impressive record of working with community-based organizations in developing a collaborative approach to effective and efficient health care delivery.

The Honorable Donna E. Shalala
January 28, 1997
page two

I am pleased to recommend Sam Downing for appointment to the National Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in Health Care Industry. I hope you will give him every consideration to serve you and the President.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sam Farr", written in dark ink. The signature is fluid and stylized, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

SAM FARR
Member of Congress

SF/rsd

BRYAN, AMES, WILLS & BENOIT
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

WILLIAM F. BRYAN
ROBERT H. AMES
THOMAS W. WILLS
C. DENISE BENOIT
Certified Specialist, Family Law,
The State Bar of California
Board of Legal Specialization

ELIZABETH A. MELPRICH, Inactive-Retired

PAUL L. PLODA (1996 - 1998)

44 WEST ALisal STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 2166
SALINAS, CA 93901-2166

TELEPHONE: 408/424-8844
FACSIMILE: 408/424-8828

March 29, 1997

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Feinstein:

This letter comes to you from the Intensive Care Unit at Tahoe Donner Hospital in Truckee, where I am recovering from a heart attack I suffered this week while skiing. I mention the setting to establish my keen and immediate appreciation for the work of medical professionals at our regional hospitals.

I am writing to offer my highest recommendation in support of the appointment of Sam Downing, CEO of Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital, to President Clinton's new health care advisory commission on consumer protection and quality of health care. I have known Sam for all twelve of the years he has led the hospital, and from the very start I have been impressed by his ability to both effectively manage, and to be a visionary for change and growth. He has won the overwhelming support of the community for our public, non-profit hospital, and managed to keep it debt-free in the face of the managed care cutbacks of recent years.

Significant achievements during Sam's tenure include the establishment of a regional heart center, a major health outreach program for Latino farm workers, and community educational services to reach potential victims of AIDS, Alzheimer's and street violence. While operating within a balanced budget Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital has nonetheless made substantial donations in volunteers and money to a wide variety of community programs.

Sam Downing is undeniably a "people person". He enjoys the strong support of his hospital staff, serves on many boards and commissions, and is well connected with people in local, state and national government including Congressman Sam Farr and Leon Panetta.

Senator Dianne Feinstein
March 29, 1997

Page 2

It is, therefore, with the greatest pleasure that I recommend my good friend, Sam Downing, for appointment to the National Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry.

Respectfully yours,

WILLIAM F. BRYAN

WFB/mh
bcc: Sam Downing

SAM W. DOWNING CURRICULUM VITAE

INTRODUCTION

For the past 25 years, Sam Downing has provided unwavering leadership in the health care field. As the Chief Executive Officer of Salinas Valley Memorial Health Care District for the past twelve years, Downing has made an extraordinary contribution to the delivery of health care services in the local community, throughout the State of California, and at the national as well as international level. During the past 12 years, he has lead Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital from being a good rural hospital to the status of a major medical center on the Central Coast of California.

For example, in the past when patients required open-heart surgery, they had to travel to facilities outside the area, thereby increasing individual health care costs, separating families and creating additional stress for patients. Eleven years ago, Downing lead the effort to establish a regional heart center in this area. Today, with the Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital's Harden Memorial Heart Center performing just under 400 open heart surgeries and 2,800 heart catheterization per year, the existing facility is operating at maximum capacity. Under Sam's leadership, an extensive expansion of the hospital's heart center is underway.

These kinds of growth and development projects are a real benefit to the community, however what is even more impressive, is Downing's continued dedication to the quality of care even in light of the intrusion of managed care into the Hospital's service area. Patient satisfaction and quality of care continue to be of utmost importance but at the same time, the morale of the employees is of fundamental concern to Mr. Downing.

SUCCESSFUL UNION - MANAGEMENT VENTURE

Health Care Employees/Employer Dental and Medical Trust

Former Chair of the Bay Area Health Care Employees/Employer Dental and Medical Trust. Trust represents some 40,000 Northern California (Local 250 Health Care Workers), 35,000 Northern California City Employees Workers (Local 790), 15,000 State Social Workers (Local 535) and close to 30,000 California State Nurses Association Members.

EDUCATION

- B.A. Degree from the University of California at Irvine, majoring in economics
- Completion of a two year MBA Program at Long Beach State University.
- Completion of a two year MPH degree specializing in hospital administration at University of California at Los Angeles.
- Most recently, completed the Executive Program Health Systems Management at Harvard University in the School of Public Health.

EXPERIENCE

Program Beta

Downing is the Chair of Program BETA, a Joint Powers Risk Management Authority providing malpractice insurance to over 70 hospitals in California and Nevada. This organization manages just under \$200 million which has resulted in substantial savings to participating hospitals in both rural and urban settings.

Health Pro

Downing has also sits on the Board of Directors of a captive insurance company referred to as HealthPro that provides Board of Directors liability insurance as well as outlier re-insurance for the new HMO capitated contracts that are being signed by public hospitals such as Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital. This type of involvement shows not only Sam's leadership skills but his ability to grasp complex subjects and be able to meet the market demands within our existing health care system.

American Hospital Association Region Policy Board 9

Mr. Downing is currently on the national American Hospital Association Region Policy Board 9 Board of Directors representing hospitals throughout the western United States.

Previous Service with Healthcare Associations/Organizations

Prior to his national AHA appointment, Mr. Downing was elected by his peers to be on the Board of Directors of the California Healthcare Association. He has also served on the Northern and Central California Board of Directors as well as being President of the Monterey Bay Hospital Conference.

The Governance One Hundred

Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital was selected as one of five hospitals in the State of California to be in the national organization referred to as the Governance One Hundred. This organization was set up to provide Board Trustees educational forums and continuing education and it was an honor to be selected to be in this outstanding group of medical facilities that are facing similar challenges and are committed to providing outstanding patient care at the local level. The 100 hospitals in this national organization are pleased to have Charlie Ewell, Ph.D. at the helm of the organization and he works closely with such California Hospitals as Scripps, Sutter, Presbyterian Medical Center - San Francisco, and other nationally recognized medical facilities.

American College of Healthcare Executives

Mr. Downing is a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

MoreHealth Board

Mr. Downing serves on the Board of Directors for the local MoreHealth organization which is committed to the appropriate use of medical resources related to the transition of the military base at Fort Ord, Monterey, California.

International Presentations and Humanitarian Efforts

Mr. Downing has been selected to present papers at the International Hospital Congress both in Oslo, Norway and in Sydney, Australia, as well as providing seminars at UC Irvine and UC Santa Cruz on health related issues. Most recently, Mr. Downing was instrumental in helping to coordinate a humanitarian trip to Beijing, China and Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, via Rotary International and Assist

International. This humanitarian project provided over a million dollars worth of monitoring equipment and medical supplies and is just one example of how Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital is committed to its mission statement of being "Neighbors Who Care."

RECENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Association of California Healthcare Districts

Mr. Downing was granted the "*At the Helm Award*" for outstanding leadership by the Association of California Healthcare Districts at last year's annual meeting of public district hospitals.

BUILDING A HEALTHIER COMMUNITY

The hospital has remained debt free in a very intense managed care environment and at the same time has contributed volunteers and financial assistance to help build a healthier community. Some of these donations for this last year are as follows:

- \$100,000 this year to the Monterey County AIDS Project;
- \$100,000 donated this year towards the construction of a new multi-cultural center that will provide recreational facilities to the youth of the Salinas Valley;
- The Hospital has been the leader of the local program referred to as PeaceBuilders. The Hospital was the initial funding partner for this important program designed to teach children to be "peer peace coaches" thus reducing social rejection and improving positive behavior - both key predictors of reduced risk for anti-social behavior.
- Contributions of financial assistance to the local drug free program sponsored by our local law enforcement agencies, referred to as D.A.R.E;
- In addition, the hospital has provided over 2.7 million dollars in charity care to help meet the medical needs of individuals having very limited resources.
- The Hospital is the regional Children's Miracle Network participant and this year, provided over \$125,000 to the establishment of the Children's Miracle Network Dental Clinic and Mobile Dental unit.

- Project Fit America has been strongly supported by the Hospital since its inception and we are one of the first hospitals to implement the program.
- Completed an \$80,000 grant to the Monterey County Immunization Program and were recognized by the former First Lady Rosalynn Carter for our outstanding efforts in this area.

These donations are just a few of the activities that the Hospital participates in during the year. These have resulted in such a strong support base for the Hospital and as you are probably aware, we are challenged on a daily basis to survive the onslaught of decreasing revenue and increasing expenses so typical of public hospitals within our national health care system.

In summary, with Sam Downing's proven track record of success in operating a large public district hospital and his knowledge in the area of economics, business, and public health, makes him a unique individual capable of understanding complex health care issues and help find practical solutions. Mr. Downing is committed to improve health care quality and access within the Salinas Valley as well as all regions of the United States.

REFERENCE LETTERS

Additional references available upon request.

Please call direct at (408) 755-0741.

**Diversity Breakdown of the President's Advisory Commission
on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry**

Men 21

Women 11

African-American 3

Hispanic 3

Asian-American 1

Disability 1

Republican at least 2

Democrat at least 26

Independent 1

**The President's Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection
and Quality in th Health Care Industry:**

APPROVED and ATTENDING: (23 + 1 tbd)

Mr. Donald M. Berwick
Ms. Christine K. Cassell
Mr. James C. Chao
Mr. Val J. Halamandaris
Ms. Sandra Hernandez
Ms. Nan Hunter
Ms. Sylvia Drew Ivie
Dr. Risa J. Lavizzo-Mourey
Ms. Sheila Leatherman
Dr. Beverly L. Malone
Mr. Paul M. Montrone
Mr. Phillip M. Nudelman
Mr. Herbert Pardes
Mr. Ron Pollack
Ms. Marta Prado
Hon. Robert Ray
Dr. Thomas R. Reardon
Dr. Steven S. Sharfstein
Mr. Peter W. Thomas
Ms. Mary Katherine Wakefield
(T) Mr. Gail Warden
Mr. Alan Weil
Mr. Sheldon Samuel Weinhaus
Mr. Stephen F. Wiggins

APPROVED but UNABLE TO ATTEND: (3)

Ms. Susan Diane Graham
Mr. Gerald McEntee
Ms. Kathleen Coilligan Sebelius

PENDING APPROVAL: (5)

Mr. Robert Georgine

Mr. David Hoag

Mr. L. Ben Lytle

Mr. J. Randall Macdonald

Mr. Dennis Rivera

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. list	Candidates for Quality Commission (2 pages)	nd	P2

**This marker identifies the original location of the withdrawn item listed above.
For a complete list of items withdrawn from this folder, see the
Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet at the front of the folder.**

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Domestic Policy Council
Chris Jennings (Subject File)
OA/Box Number: 23744

FOLDER TITLE:

Quality Commission-Appointees' Background [3]

gf51

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advise between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
002. list	Recommendations for Quality Commission (9 pages)	nd	P2

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Quality Commission-Appointees' Background [3]

gf51

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
003. memo	Lynn A. Jennings to Chris Jennings and Peggy A. Clark Re: Blue Cross/Blue Shield Names (1 page)	1/31/97	P2

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OA/Box Number: 23744

FOLDER TITLE:

Quality Commission-Appointees' Background [3]

gf51

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ADVISORY COMMISSION ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND QUALITY IN THE HEALTH CARE INDUSTRY

DONALD BERWICK, of Newton, Massachusetts, is President and Chief Executive Officer of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement.

CHRISTINE K. CASSEL, of New York City, New York, currently serves as Chairman of the Henry L. Schwarz Department of Geriatrics and Adult Development at Mt. Sinai Medical Center.

JAMES CHAO, of Naperville, Illinois, is the President of Metro Provider Service Corporation.

ROBERT GEORGINE, of Silver Spring, Maryland, is the President of the Building and Construction Trades Department of the AFL-CIO.

S. DIANE GRAHAM, of Paradise Valley, Arizona, is the Chairman and CEO of STRATCO, Inc., a mechanical and chemical engineering firm.

VAL J. HALAMANDARIS, of the District of Columbia, currently serves as the President of the National Association of Home Care (NAHC).

SANDRA HERNÁNDEZ, of San Francisco, California, currently serves as Director of Health for the City and County of San Francisco in the San Francisco Department of Health.

NAN HUNTER, of New York, New York, is an Associate Professor of Law at Brooklyn Law School.

SYLVIA DREW IVIE, of Los Angeles, California, currently serves as the Executive Director of T.H.E. Clinic for Women in Los Angeles, a primary health care clinic.

RISA J. LAVIZZO-MOUREY, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is the Director for the Institute of Aging, Chief of the Division of Geriatric Medicine, Associate Executive Vice President for Health Policy, and the Sylvan Eisman Associate Professor of Medicine and Health Care Systems at the University of Pennsylvania.

SHEILA LEATHERMAN, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, is Executive Vice President of the United Health Care Corporation.

L. BEN LYTTLE, of Indianapolis, Indiana, is President and CEO of Anthem, Inc.

BEVERLY MALONE, of Greensboro, North Carolina, is the President of the American Nurses Association.

GERALD MCENTEE, of the District of Columbia, is the President of the Association of Federal, State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME).

PAUL MONTRONE, of Hampton Falls, New Hampshire, is the President and CEO of Fisher Scientific International, Inc.

PHILLIP NUDELMAN, of Seattle, Washington, is the President and CEO of Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound, a non-profit managed health care delivery system.

HERBERT PARDES, of New York, New York, is the Vice President for Health Sciences and Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons.

RON POLLACK, of Alexandria, Virginia, a long-time advocate for low income Americans, currently serves as the Executive Director of Families USA.

MARTA PRADO, of Hollywood, Florida, is the Senior Vice President of InPhyNet Medical Management and Chief Operating Officer of InPhyNet's Managed Care and Corrections Divisions.

ROBERT RAY, of Des Moines, Iowa, is a former Governor of Iowa, and serves as Co-Chair of the National Leadership Coalition on Health Care.

THOMAS REARDON, of Boring, Oregon, is the Medical Director of the Portland Adventist Medical Group.

KATHLEEN SEBELIUS, of Topeka, Kansas, currently serves as the Insurance Commissioner for the State of Kansas and as Vice Chair of the Health Committee of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

STEVEN S. SHARFSTEIN, of Baltimore, Maryland, one of the nation's leaders in mental health, is President, Medical Director and CEO of Sheppard Pratt, a non-profit behavioral health system.

PETER THOMAS, of the District of Columbia, is a principal in the law firm of Powers, Pylers, Sutter & Verville, P.C.

MARY WAKEFIELD, of McLean, Virginia, currently serves as the Director and Professor of the Center for Health Policy at George Mason University.

GAIL WARDEN, of Detroit, Michigan, currently serves as President and CEO of the Henry Ford Health Systems.

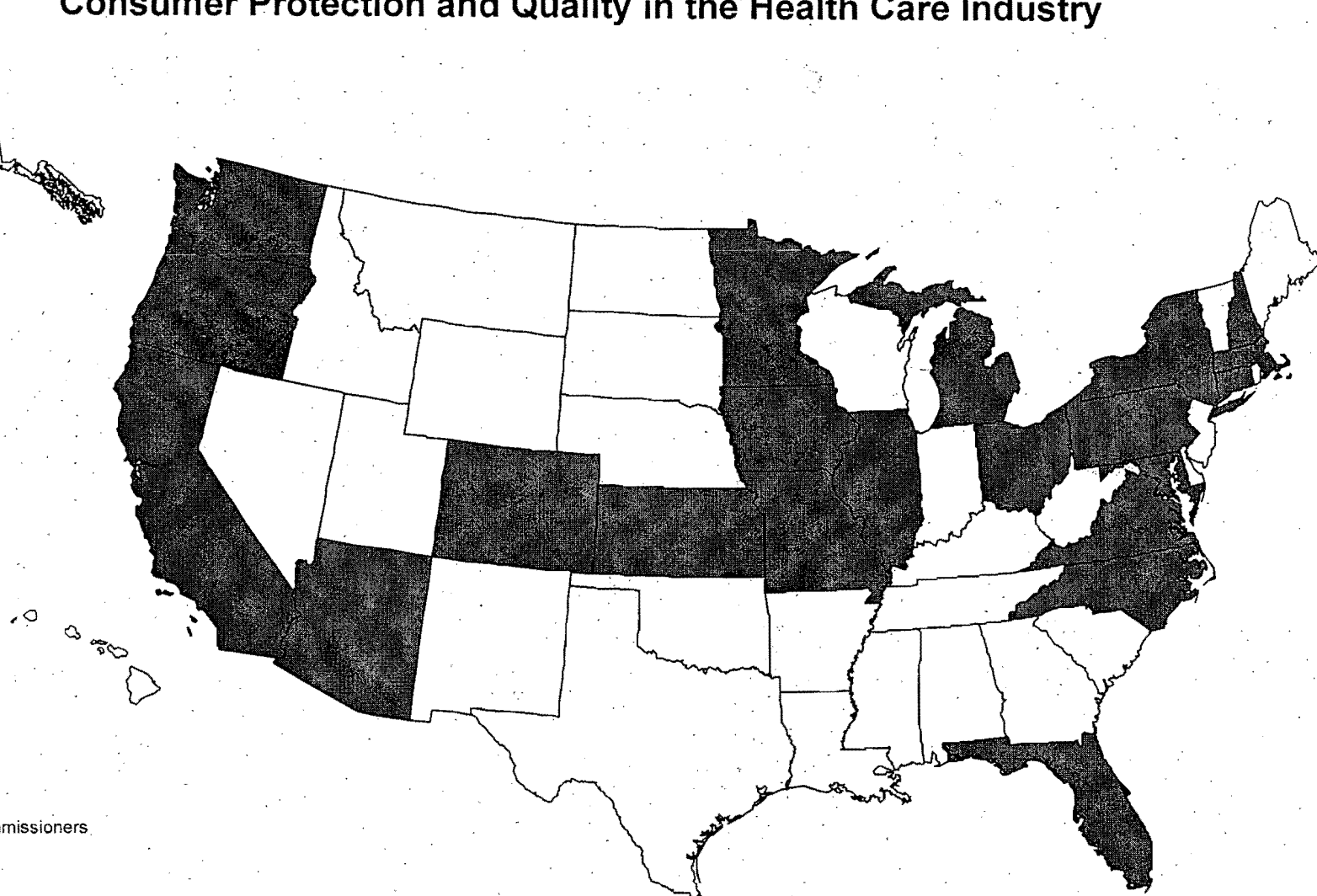
ALAN WEIL, of Denver, Colorado, currently is co-director of the Assessing the New Federalism Project at the Urban Institute.

SHELDON WEINHAUS, of St. Louis, Missouri, is an attorney who has worked extensively representing workers in health care litigation.

STEPHEN F. WIGGINS, of Darien, Connecticut, is the Founder, Chairman and CEO of Oxford Health Plans, Inc.

Janet Corrigan, of Columbia, Maryland, will be the Executive Director of the Advisory Commission on Consumer Quality and Protection in the Health Care Industry. She currently is a principal researcher at the Center for Studying Health System Change.

Broad-Based Representation on the President's Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry



■ Home States of Commissioners

MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY COMMISSION ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND QUALITY IN THE HEALTH CARE INDUSTRY

DONALD BERWICK of Newton, Massachusetts is President and Chief Executive Officer of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement. Dr. Berwick is also an Associate Clinical Professor of Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School and an Adjunct Associate Professor of Management at the Harvard School of Public Health. An expert on children's health care, Dr. Berwick has practiced medicine as a pediatrician continuously since 1976. He has extensive experience on quality issues, and served as a member of the Panel of Judges for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award of the U.S. Department of Commerce. He has also served on the Committee on the Future of the Patient Record at the Institute of Medicine, was Vice Chair of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force at the Department of Health and Human Services, and currently is the Chair of the Health Services Research Review Sub-Committee of the U.S. Agency for Health Care Policy and Research. He is a graduate of Harvard College, and the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, and Harvard Medical School.

CHRISTINE K. CASSEL of New York City, New York currently serves as Chairman of the Henry L. Schwarz Department of Geriatrics and Adult Development at Mt. Sinai Medical Center. She joined Mount Sinai in 1995 after ten years as Chief of General Internal Medicine at the University of Chicago. A renowned expert on aging issues, she is well aware of the special needs of the elderly population and the particular challenge presented by new health care delivery systems. She has been actively studying demographic and epidemiologic forecasting, and the care of patients at the end of life. She also has an extensive background in medical ethics. In 1992, she was elected to membership at the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. She is the immediate past President of the American College of Physicians, a member of the Board of Directors of the American Board of Internal Medicine, and a Trustee of the Greenwall Foundation. Dr. Cassel received a B.A. at the University of Chicago and an M.D. from the University of Massachusetts.

JAMES CHAO of Naperville, Illinois is the President of Metro Provider Service Corporation. The Corporation provides a variety of services to the health care industry, including the provision of health care services and the development of communications systems between providers. Mr. Chao has over 15 years of experience working with health care organizations, and has served as a health care consultant, focusing on issues of health care reimbursement and hospital financing. Mr. Chao was Financial Officer for Columbia Cabrini Medical Center in Chicago, where he was responsible for the finances of a three hospital system. Mr. Chao received a B.S. from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

File quality commission

JUSTICE FOR ALL

BECKY OGLE CHAIR, MARK SMITH: TRUTH TEAM COORDINATOR, 754 NORTH PRESIDENT STREET, SUITE 2, JACKSON, MS 39202.
601/969-0601 V/TDD, 969-1663 FAX, JUSTIN & YOSHIKO DART: 907 6TH STREET, S.W., #514C, WASHINGTON, DC 20024.
FRED FAY: E-MAIL COORDINATOR, justice@tmet.com

CLD0040

March 25, 1997

Hon. Bill Clinton
President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We congratulate you on the establishment of the Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry. We are particularly enthusiastic about your selection of Peter Thomas to serve on the commission. Peter is a distinguished Washington attorney, an expert on health care law and policy, and an authentic advocate for the rights and empowerment of Americans with disabilities.

People with disabilities are particularly vulnerable to archaic practices in the present health care system. With the expansion of HMOs, thousands of us are denied the right to choose doctors who are quality specialists in the area of our individual disabilities. Thousands, denied necessary treatment because it is deemed to cost too much, are condemned to increased disability and pain, and early death. Thousands are incarcerated in nursing homes at great expense to themselves and to society. Thousand are forced to take treatment they don't want. Thousands have no health care coverage at all.

We who have disabilities are profoundly terrified by currently fashionable assertions that many of us are better off dead, that one is doing us a favor by withholding health care, even by assisting us to die.

It is absolutely essential to provide guarantees by all levels of government that no American will ever again be denied the right to choose his or her doctors and treatment, that no American will ever again be denied the best health care available, that no American will ever again be forced to take unwanted treatment, that no American will ever again be confined to a nursing home, an institution, a back room or any other place for lack of home and community based services.

Mr. President, we of the disability community deeply appreciate your courageous efforts to establish quality health care for all. We will cooperate with you and your new commission in any way possible.

Sincerely,

Justin and Yoshiko Dart
Justin and Yoshiko Dart

Fred Fay
Fred Fay

Becky Ogle
Becky Ogle

Mark Smith
Mark Smith



**UNITED
CEREBRAL
PALSY
ASSOCIATIONS**

Advancing the independence of people with disabilities

March 25, 1997

President Bill Clinton
The White House
Executive Office of the President
Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Clinton:

United Cerebral Palsy Associations (UCPA) supports your appointment of Peter Thomas, Esq. to the Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry because of our long history of working with him on disability issues and health care.

UCPA is a national nonprofit membership association of 155 affiliates in 44 states that delivers in excess of \$500 million of services annually to individuals with a full range of disabilities, including many persons with cerebral palsy and similar developmental disabilities. Our members, who deliver multiple services to babies, toddlers, youth and adults with disabilities, and their families, are very familiar with the health care system and the changing environment.

UCPA understands clearly both the promise and peril for people with disabilities as managed health care and financing mechanisms undergo scrutiny. In particular, we are committed to (1) development of quality assurance methods and public 'report cards' which focus on functional health status and quality-in-life outcomes; and (2) encouragement of health care delivery approaches which promote consumer empowerment in selection of and access to health care providers, choice of treatments, and in active participation in the management of one's chronic health conditions. In particular, we expect the Commission to uphold cost containment strategies which prevent the withholding of medically and functionally necessary services for people who could benefit from them when there are more effective, efficient and equitable opportunities to ration excess capacity, administrative waste, and excess profits.

We look forward to an Advisory Commission report in 1998 which addresses these issues and are confident that Mr. Thomas will urge the Commission to focus on these aspects of managed care for people with disabilities as the nation builds its bridge to the 21st century for all Americans.

Sincerely,

Allan A. Bergman
Allan I. Bergman
Director, State-Federal Relations

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Washington, D.C. 20006-3868
(202) 785-3388 • FAX (202) 467-4179 • TDD (202) 785-3411-4179
E-mail: aroga@radix.net

The Honorable William J. Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20500

On behalf of the 140,000 members of The Arc, our nation's leading organization concerned with the lives of people with mental retardation and their families, I wish to commend you for the creation of the Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry. We are very pleased that you have appointed to this Commission at least one expert on health care and disability.

not very expensive

Sincerely,

Alan Gibson

Dr. Alan Abeson
Executive Director

The Arc

*a national organization
on mental retardation*
formerly Association for
Retarded Citizens of the United States



National Mental Health Association™

Chair of the Board, Robert Klepfer, Jr.
President and CEO, Michael M. Faenza

1021 Prince Street, Alexandria, VA 22314-2971 Phone 703/684-7722 Fax 703/684-5968 Internet - <http://www.worldcorp.com/dc-online/nmha>

March 25, 1997

President Bill Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Clinton:

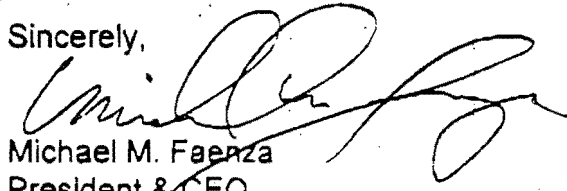
On behalf of the National Mental Health Association (NMHA), I am writing to offer our congratulations on your appointment of Dr. Steven Sharfstein to the Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality In The Health Care Industry. Dr. Sharfstein brings a wealth of experience on managed care issues and NMHA believes that he a truly outstanding choice.

With over 120 million Americans receiving mental health services through managed care systems, it is essential that the federal government, states and the private sector work together to assure that quality of care is maintained. We believe that the advisory commission is an ideal forum to facilitate a critical dialogue among these key players leading to concrete recommendations that will protect consumers and families alike.

Dr. Sharfstein's selection is exemplary both because of his background as well as his extraordinary reputation for balance and fairness. As a member of an Institute of Medicine (IOM) panel that recently examined quality of care standards, he brings vast knowledge of existing accreditation systems and outcome measurements. As president and medical director of the Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital in Baltimore, MD., he brings frontline experience as an administrator of a nationally known inpatient facility which is changing substantially to keep pace with transformations occurring in the healthcare marketplace.

Once again, congratulations on an excellent choice. We look forward to working with commission members as their deliberations get underway.

Sincerely,


Michael M. Faenza
President & CEO

**Communications
Workers of America**
AFL-CIO, CLC

501 Third Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001-2797
202/434-1110 Fax 202/434-1139

Morton Bahr
President

March 25, 1997

The Honorable William Clinton
President
The White House

Dear Mr. President:

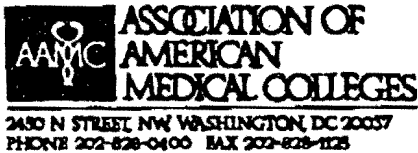
The Communications Workers of America, AFL-CIO (CWA) has been actively developing quality standards and access measures designed to assure the rights of CWA members to the broad scope of benefits from the health plans negotiated by the the union. Today we applaud your appointment of the National Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry whose mission is to examine changes in the nation's health care system and to provide recommendations for improvements.

The Commission's mandate to recommend steps to improve health care quality and to protect consumers is important and timely. Today more and more workers and their families are covered by managed health care plans rather than traditional indemnity plans. While this change may have helped to reduce health plan costs, it may also have impacted the quality of health care. This new generation of health plans tends to insert a layer of oversight and bureaucracy between the patient and the health care provider, jeopardizing the doctor-patient relationship and creating at least a perception of sub-standard care. Reimbursement schemes under these new plans can, if not properly managed, provide incentives for doctors to withhold care. Also, as managed care plans demand discounts from hospitals and other facilities, these health care providers attempt to put the squeeze on health care workers as a way to reduce their expenses. These changes in health care delivery must be assessed to assure that health quality is not compromised and that patients are not endangered in the name of cost savings.

CWA looks forward to working with the National Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry as it addresses these vitally important public concerns.

Sincerely,


Morton Bahr
President



Contact: John Parker
(202) 828-0975

Embargoed for Release
3:00 p.m. EST
Wednesday, March 26, 1997

AAMC APPLAUDS NEW PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION DEDICATED TO CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH CARE QUALITY

Washington, D.C., March 26, 1997—The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), the national association representing U.S. medical schools and teaching hospitals, commends President Clinton today for establishing a new, bipartisan commission to review the rapid changes in the health care delivery system and their effects on consumers and health care quality.

The Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry will study the new health care delivery system and develop recommendations to guide policymakers in defining appropriate consumer protection and quality standards.

✓ "The President shows great leadership in establishing this important commission," said AAMC President Jordan J. Cohen, M.D. "As the dynamic changes in our health care delivery system continue, this broad-based panel will prove essential in identifying the intended and unintended consequences of the system's transformation, as well as for providing recommended ways to protect consumers and the quality of the health care they receive."

Herbert Pardes, M.D., vice president and dean of the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons and immediate past chairman of the AAMC, will serve as one of the bipartisan commission's 20 members.

"Dr. Pardes brings to the commission his multiple perspectives as a physician, medical educator, institutional leader and national health policy expert," said Dr. Cohen. "The work of Dr. Pardes and his colleagues on the panel will be much anticipated as it undoubtedly will advance the nation's understanding of its ever-changing health care system."

###

The Association of American Medical Colleges represents the 125 accredited U.S. medical schools; the 16 accredited Canadian medical schools; some 400 major teaching hospitals, including 74 Veterans Administration medical centers; 86 academic and professional societies representing 87,000 faculty members; and the nation's 67,000 medical students and 102,000 residents.



AMERICAN MEDICAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

For Immediate Release

**Contact: Anne Pritchett
703-838-0500**

Women Physicians Commend Establishment of Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry

Alexandria, VA—The American Medical Women's Association (AMWA), representing more than 13,000 women physicians and medical students, applauds the Clinton Administration's leadership in establishing the Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in Health Care. The Commission, which has received widespread bipartisan support, will play a key role in enhancing the quality of our health care system, while protecting health care consumers. The current health care system is changing daily, and there is an urgent need to better understand how these changes are affecting the quality of and access to health care.

The Commission will be comprised of experts in a number of areas, including two notable women physician leaders Christine K. Cassel, MD, FACP, an AMWA member who has extensive knowledge and experience in general internal medicine and geriatrics, and Risa J. Lavizzo-Mourey, MD, an internist with expertise in a wide range of health policy areas.

Dr. Cassel has served in numerous leadership capacities including as President of the American College of Physicians and a member of the Board of Directors of the American Board of Internal Medicine. Appointed to the U.S. Congress Biomedical Advisory Committee in 1988, she has served as an advisor to the National Institute on Aging, Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, and numerous other agencies and organizations on biomedical, ethical, and policy issues in general internal medicine and geriatrics.

Dr. Lavizzo-Mourey is equally well-suited to serve on the Commission. She brings expertise in geriatrics as well as recent experience as Deputy Administrator of the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research. A Fellow of the American College of Physicians, Dr. Lavizzo-Mourey currently serves as Chief of the Division of Geriatric Medicine, Director of the Institute on Aging, and Associate Executive Vice President for Health Policy at the University of Pennsylvania Medical Center in Philadelphia.

Founded in 1915, the American Medical Women's Association is dedicated to improving the personal and professional well-being of women physicians and medical students and serving as an advocate on women's health issues. AMWA is the only professional organization focused on meeting the unique needs of women physicians in all specialty areas from every part of the country.

Representing Women in Medicine Since 1915

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 25, 1997

CONTACT: Pam Drellow
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Bill Pierce
202.626.4818

**Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association
Salutes Appointment of
National Bipartisan Commission on Health Care Quality**

(Washington) – The Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association (BCBSA) today applauded the establishment of a new bipartisan commission to advise the President on health care issues. This panel, formally known as the Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry, was established by executive order last Sept. 5.

The commission is designed to advise the President on changes occurring in the health care system; to collect data on existing consumer information and

(more)

BCBSA Applauds Commission/Add One

protections; and to recommend improvements to ensure health care access and quality. It is composed of health care industry leaders, academics and health services professionals from both parties.

"The nation's 59 independent Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans share the President's concern for preserving health care quality and access in a rapidly changing marketplace," said Mary Nell Lehnhard, senior vice president in BCBSA's Office of Policy and Representation.

"We welcome the panel's thoughtful deliberations about the future health care delivery system, because we believe making sure that health plans offer effective, affordable services is in everyone's best interest," she said.

Lehnhard noted that BCBSA has long been committed to improving the quality of health care services for its members. Blue Plans recently re-affirmed this long-standing tradition by publicly releasing a statement of *Quality Commitments to Managed Care Members*. The *Commitments* renew the Blues' dedication to assuring patient choice, recognizing physician leadership and respecting patients' rights and needs.

(more)

BCBSA Applauds Commission/Add Two

BCBSA is a confederation of 59 independent, community-based Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans – collectively, the nation's largest health benefits provider.

Blue Plans are also the U.S. managed care leaders, with more than 37 million members in HMOs, PPOs and point-of-service plans.

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March 25, 1997

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill applauds you, President Clinton, for including Dr. Steven Sharfstein on the Health Care Quality Commission. The presence of a pre-eminent mental illness treatment professional of Dr. Sharfstein's caliber on the Commission sends a strong and welcome message to consumers and families.

The Commission will have the treatment of severe mental illnesses, which are brain disorders, in its charge. Persons who suffer from these disorders are a particularly vulnerable population. Protection of these consumers with severe mental illness will be a central consideration at the highest level of government. NAMI is grateful. Thank you, Mr. President.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laurie M. Flynn".

Laurie M. Flynn,
Executive Director

American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations



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March 25, 1997

The Honorable William Clinton
President
The White House

Dear Mr. President:

The AFL-CIO and its affiliates, as the largest block of organized consumers of managed care services, have been strong advocates for placing a new emphasis on quality and consumer protection in the nation's increasingly cost-driven health care system. Your appointment of a National Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry is a well-timed response to the need for examining quality in an unregulated marketplace.

We agree that a National Advisory Commission is warranted to make recommendations on how best to protect consumers, provide quality health care and assure access to services in a fast-changing health care delivery system.

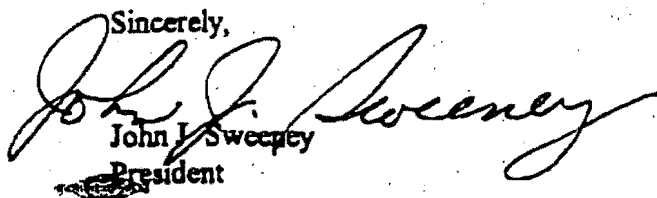
The National Advisory Commission's start-up is also timely. A growing body of evidence suggests that many of the fundamental changes in our delivery system over the last several years have come at the expense of quality. And the degree of change in the health care system, to the point where providers now face financial incentives to provide less care rather than more and that consumers are often "locked into" a plan, has created a growing trust gap between consumers and providers.

The human trauma of industry transformation is reflected in the new trend of medical practice by legislation -- a drastic step, but an understandable reaction to the stress all the changes are producing among consumers. Real protections for consumers and the assurance of quality are vitally important to restoring the public's trust and reducing the need to legislate specific clinical standards.

We also support the decision to include health care workers as stakeholders in the public debate about costs and quality because they are there on the frontlines fighting to deliver quality health care in a cost-cutting environment.

The AFL-CIO looks forward to working with the National Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry.

Sincerely,


John J. Sweeney
President

The logo for the Health Insurance Association of America (HIAA) features the letters "HIAA" in a bold, white, sans-serif font, centered within a solid black rectangular box.

Health Insurance Association of America

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 26, 1997

CONTACT: Richard Coorsh
(202) 824-1787

**HIAA COMMENDS COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO BE TAKEN
BY THE PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON HEALTH CARE QUALITY**

The Health Insurance Association of America (HIAA) believes that the Presidential Advisory Commission on Consumer Rights and Quality in the Health Care Industry, whose members are being named today, will have an excellent opportunity to provide policy makers and consumers with a thorough examination of the issues which affect the quality of health care available to every American.

We believe President Clinton's creation of this Commission sets the stage for a diverse cross-section of interests to study these issues comprehensively. Such a review is an essential step toward ensuring Americans that their medical care will be provided in a manner which promotes accessibility and affordability in addition to the highest standards of quality.

HIAA and its member companies look forward to supporting the Commission in its work and commend President Clinton for his thoughtful and inclusive approach to the task at hand.

The Health Insurance Association of America is the Washington, D.C.-based trade association representing many of the nation's leading for-profit health insurance carriers.

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March 25, 1997

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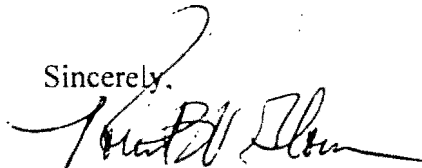
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I would like to thank you for appointing Dr. Steven S. Sharfstein to the Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry. I believe it is critical to include a representative of the mental health field in the activities of this important commission, and Dr. Sharfstein has excellent experience working with both the public and private mental health sectors. Your continued support of mental health has been crucial to increasing public awareness of the need to include mental health when addressing the nation's health issues, as well as minimizing stigma against persons with mental illness. Your appointment of Dr. Sharfstein reflects this commitment, and I thank you again for this decision.

Sincerely,



Robert W. Glover, Ph.D.
Executive Director



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March 25, 1997

President William J. Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Clinton:

On behalf of the American Psychiatric Association, a medical specialty society representing more than 40,000 psychiatric physicians nationwide and certainly on behalf of the millions of patients they serve, we applaud your leadership in the establishment of the Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry. We are deeply grateful for your initiative in appointing a psychiatrist and past officer of the APA, Steven S. Sharfstein, M.D., as a member of the Health Care Industry Commission.

Psychiatrists have a vital interest in ensuring that the health care their patients receive -- regardless of the site of service or the administrative entity -- is of the highest quality. With the recognition that better patient protections are needed to achieve quality health care for the millions of Americans with mental health and substance abuse problems in managed care plans, Dr. Sharfstein's service on the Health Care Industry Commission offers a very timely opportunity for conscientious deliberative action to address the matter.

We are confident that Dr. Sharfstein's extraordinary record as a clinician and administrator, and his demonstrated concern for his patients, will make him an outstanding member of the Health Care Industry Commission and a forceful advocate for the needs of persons with mental illness and substance abuse disorders. The Association looks forward to working with the Commission.

Respectfully,

Melvin Sabshin, M.D.
Medical Director



PRESS RELEASE

FOR RELEASE:
Wednesday, March 25

Families USA's Ron Pollack Named to Presidential Health Care Quality Commission

WASHINGTON (March 25, 1997) -- Ron Pollack, executive director of the national health consumer group Families USA, was named today to the new President's Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry.

President Clinton announced last fall that he would create the Commission to make recommendations on quality-of-care issues in light of the rapid expansion of HMOs and other types of managed care.

Pollack said he feels certain that the Commission will help draw attention to the need for national action to ensure quality of health care for consumers.

"Our country has experienced a revolution in the delivery of health care," he said. "Through the Commission's focus on quality of care, we need to ensure that this is a bloodless revolution."

Pollack is a veteran health care consumer advocate, often called upon for insights by Congressional committees, national news media, foundations, government leaders and other national organizations. He is the founding executive director of Families USA. Earlier, he was dean of the Antioch University School of Law and was the founding executive director of the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC), a leading national organization working to eliminate hunger in the U.S.

Families USA has issued a number of reports recently demonstrating the need for federal action on managed care consumer protection.

-30-

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HOMECARE

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Mary Suther, Chairman of the Board of the National Association for Home Care, today praised President Bill Clinton for his "serious and forthright action" in establishing the Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry.

"Health care is the number one concern of all Americans. There are numerous problems, notably the need for long-term care, which will only be exacerbated over time. Managed care has presented both opportunities and concerns. There is a clear need for an exhaustive study of this area. I commend the President for naming the Commission to do the work which is so vital to our Country", said Mary Suther.

Ms. Suther lauded the President for making the Commission bipartisan and for setting realistic goals and time frames. She stressed the importance of looking at health care from the point of view of protecting the rights of consumers. "Health care first and always should be about what is good for patients and their families," said Ms. Suther.

Ms. Suther also underscored the importance of maintaining the highest quality of health care services. "In America we have the best of health care in the world and the worst at the same time. We have the best technology and the best trained personnel. We are capable of doing lifesaving procedures, and yet at the same time 39 million people are going without the health care insurance coverage they need. As cost pressures increase there is a strong possibility that the quality of health care services will diminish. The Presidential Commission has the mandate to examine all of these issues and bring forward a comprehensive plan for consideration of the Congress."